The terms of reference of the Group are as under:

(i) whether it would be TRIPs (Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) compatible to limit the grant of patent for pharmaceutical substance to new chemical entity or to new medical entity involving one or more inventive steps; and

(ii) whether it would be TRIPs compatible to exclude micro-organisms from patenting

The Group held its first meeting on 29th April, 2005. The report of the Group is awaited.

Meeting of NMCC

4342. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first meeting of the newly constituted National manufacturing Competitiveness Council has taken place recently;

(b) the details of the discussions that tookplace in the meeting; and

(c) the decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (c) The first meeting of the National manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) was held on 6.1.2005 and taken a decision to form 11 Working Groups to suggest sector specific initiatives in order to make the Indian industry globally competitive. 9 Working Groups had already held detailed discussions with various stakeholders. The NMCC is in the process of formulating the strategy for intervention.

Gom on SEZs

4343. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state: